"[(--- " and "---)]" (L3, K3 and L3, K4) Parentheses or bracket keys use opening and closing parentheses at each place they appear in a problem. The fx-260 will allow for a maximum of 18 sets of brackets to be used. The calculator will display on the screen how many sets of parentheses and/or brackets are open. Please remember to close parentheses and/or brackets.

"X^y" (L3, K5) "X to the y power" key. *Example*: What does 7^4 equal? Enter 7 X^y 4 = . The answer is 2401.

"X^2" and "$\sqrt{\ }$" (L1, K3) Square and Square Root key. *Example*: What is 5^2 ? Enter 5 X^2. The answer is 25. What is the $\sqrt{49}$? Enter 49, SHIFT, X^2 . The answer is 7.

"EXP" and "π" (L7, K3) Exponent or Pi key. One may use either function for the value of Pi when using the "Comp" mode. In other words, pressing "EXP" also equals 3.141592654 when using the "Comp" mode, or you may press shift "EXP".

NOTE: You may develop different methods or steps for computing problems when you become more familiar with the fx–260.

ADDITIONAL KEYS you might want to know about. (Not necessary for the GED.)

"a b/c" (L2, K1) Fraction key. To enter ¼ or 2¾? Enter 1, a b/c, 4. If you press = and a b/c again, .25 (the decimal equivalent) is displayed. Pressing the fraction key again will return the number to fraction form (¼). To enter 2¾, Press 2, a b/c, 3, a b/c, 4. If you press " = " and a b/c again, 2.75 (the decimal equivalent) is displayed.

"%" (L7, K4) Percent key. When solving percentage problems, you must enter the percentage part of the problem last. *Example*: What is 5% of 50? Enter 50, X, 5, SHIFT, =. The answer is 2.5.

BASIC CALCULATION PROBLEMS

1 $12 + .17 - 15 =$
Enter: 12 + .17 - 15 = Ans: -2.83

2 $32 \div 4 \times -3.2 =$ Note: -3.2 is a negative number, and the "+/-" key (L3, K1) must be used to change this number to a negative number.
Enter: 32 ÷ 4 x 3.2 +/- = Ans: -25.6

3 $6 \times 5 + 3 \div 2 - 6 =$
Enter: 6 x 5 + 3 ÷ 2 - 6 = Ans: 25.5

4 $4 \div 3(4 \times 10^{15}) =$
Enter: 4 ÷ 3 x (4 x 10 X^y 15) = Ans: 5.333333333^{15}

5 $3+7 \ / \ 2+5 \times 3^2$ When you are computing fractions that have complex numerators and/or denominators, enter the complex numerator and/or denominator in parentheses when entering the problem in the fx–260.
Enter: (3 + 7) ÷ (2 + 5 x 3 X^y 2) = Ans: .212765957

6 $\sqrt{121} + 17 - (-4) \times -2^2$
Enter: 121 SHIFT X + 17 - 4 +/- x 2 +/- = Ans: 20

7 $3[4 + 6\,(8+2)] =$
Enter: 3 x (4 + 6 x (8 + 2)) = Ans: 192

8 $6/5\ \pi\ 4^3\ =$

Enter: 6 a b/c 5 x EXP x 4 X^y 3 = Ans: 241.2743158

Note: the exponent key is the same as Pi in this problem.

CONSTANT CALCULATION PROBLEMS

1 4.5 + 3; 4.5 + 5; 4.5 + 11 Note: By entering the "+" or the "x" key twice, the calculator continues to add or multiply numbers to the first number (constant) entered, without entering the number again.

Enter: 4.5 + + 3 = Ans: 7.5

5 = Ans: 9.5

11 = Ans: 15.5

2 8 x 4.5; 8 x 15; 8 x (-5)

Enter: 8 x x 4.5 = Ans: 36

15 = Ans: 120

5 +/- = Ans: -40

3 14+14+14+14 =

Enter: 14 + + = Ans: 28

= Ans: 42

= Ans: 56

OTHER KEYS:

" = " (L7, K4) Press " = " at the end of a problem to have the calculator compute the answer. If the answer is already there, pressing the " = " key will not alter the correct answer.

"C" (L4, K4) Pressing the "C" key clears only what is on the screen.

"AC" (L4, K5) Pressing the "AC" key clears the screen and the last function entered. This key, because of its location, is usually the most popular key for preparing the calculator for the next problem. Remember to press the "ON" key to clear the memory (L3, K6) and return the calculator to the mode for math calculations ("comp" when in compute mode – the screen reads "DEG").

"SHIFT" (Ll, Kl) This key shifts to the function written above the keys. *Example*: Find $\sqrt{36}$. Enter 36, SHIFT X^2 (Ll, K3). The answer is 6.

NOTE: You should not press two keys at the same time. Press "SHIFT" and then press " X^2 " next. When the "SHIFT" key is pressed the word "shift" should appear in the left-hand corner of the screen.

Here are other keys you may want to become familiar with:

"▶" (L3, K2) Backspace. Pressing this key clears the last digit displayed on the screen. This key can be used to clear a number entered by mistake.

"+/-" (L3, K1) Sign Change key. This key, not the subtraction key (L6, K5), changes the sign of a number. Numbers are automatically entered as positive numbers, and then can be changed to negative numbers. *Example*: -5 is entered 5, +/-, and -5 appears. The -5 can be changed back to a 5 by pressing the +/- key again.

CASIO FX-260 SCIENTIFIC CALCULATOR:
Orientation Guide for the GED
Designed to be self-paced and self-instructional

START-UP INSTRUCTIONS: You may use the eraser of a pencil to press the keys. Text keys will be identified by their line location. Example: The "ON" key is at line 1, key 6 or (L1, K6)

1. Press the "ON" key (Ll, K6), even if the calculator is on. Pressing the "ON" key puts the calculator in the correct mode for math calculations. After pressing the "ON" key, the screen should display "DEG" in small letters. "DEG" means the calculator is in the correct mode for math calculations. The "ON" key is also the master clearing key, because this key clears the screen, clears the last function entered, and clears the memory. It is advisable to use this key to make sure the calculator is completely cleared and is in the correct mode (Comp) for the math calculations.

2. Check the screen: Fill the screen with 8's (L4, K2). If each 8 is not complete, the calculator should not be used. Now clear the screen by pressing the "ON" or "AC" (L4, K5) key, and the calculator is ready to use. The screen should always be checked in this manner before you use the calculator.

BASIC OPERATION KEYS: " + " (L6, K4), " - " (L6, K5), " x " (L5, K4), " ÷ " (L5, K5), " = " (L7, K4).

All of these operations should be entered into the calculator as they appear in a "constructed problem." The fx-260 will do the operations in the correct order, even when the problem contains multiple parentheses. *Example:* 4 x 9 + 3 - 5 x 6 + 2 is put into the calculator as it is written.
Enter 4 x 9 + 3 - 5 x 6 + 2 = the answer is "11"

ADDITIONAL PROBLEMS: (The answer key follows problem number 4.)

1. $28.9 + 7_{1/7} \div 4.7$ — Ans: 30.53452109
2. $4 \div 6^2 \times 4^2 - 13.4 =$ — Ans: -11.62222222
3. $\sqrt{24} \times 3^2 - (10.2 + 8\ ¼) =$ — Ans: 25.64081537
4. What is 98 increased by 15%? — Ans: 112.7
   (Remember to enter the percentage part of the problem last.)

ANSWER KEY for the four previous problems.

1. $28.9 + 7_{1/7} \div 4.37$
   Enter: 28.9 + 7 a b/c 1 a b/c 7 ÷ 4.37 = — Ans: 30.53452109

2. $4 \div 6^2 \times 4^2 - 13.4$
   Enter: 4 ÷ 6 X^y 2 x 4 X^y 2 - 13.4 = — Ans: -11.62222222

3. $\sqrt{24} \times 3^2 - (10.2 + 8¼)$
   Enter: 24 SHIFT X^2 x 3 X^y 2 - (10.2 + 8 a b/c 1 a b/c 4) = — Ans: 25.64081537

4. What is 98 increased by 15%?
   Enter: 98 x 15 SHIFT = + — Ans: 112.7

Michigan Department of Career Development

January 2002

Casio Scientific Calculator fx-260

Orientation Guide for the GED

The Casio fx-260 Calculator and the GED.